

March 28, 1947

In re: Charles Luciano @ "Lucky"
International List #198

Mr. H. J. Anslinger
Commissioner of Narcotics
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

There are transmitted herewith two copies of a report dated March 21, 1947, prepared by Narcotic Agent J. Ray Olivera in connection with the investigation of the activities of Charles "Lucky" Luciano in Havana, Cuba. This office will prepare the necessary letters and take the proper local action to complete the investigative work in this instance.

The following actions are recommended to be taken by the Bureau:

- I. Request the Customs Agency Service to furnish information with respect to the following matters:
 - A. Secure the latest available photograph of Luciano from the proper authorities in Cuba.
 - B. Make a full investigation of the exportation of a Chrysler Station Wagon which was apparently slightly used prior to exportation as a used vehicle by Freila Hidalgo Gato, 541 Lincoln Road, Tampa, Florida. A previous attempt had apparently been made to export this vehicle to Cuba as a new car but had failed and Mr. Gato, a friend of the suspects in this case, used the car briefly in order to secure its classification as a used vehicle. The station wagon was presented to Mrs. Suarez Rivies in Havana, Cuba, by Luciano. The vehicle apparently cost \$4000.00 but was exported with a value of \$500.00. Mr. Gato is involved in the illegal operations of Luciano, Cuban racketeers, and Meyer Lansky, International List #169. Upon receipt of identification numbers for this car we will trace the purchase of the vehicle in an effort to discover the identity of Luciano's helpers.

- C. Ask the Treasury representative at Havana to make the most urgent and thorough attempts to *establish the* correct degree of Frank Costello's interest in the Presidente Hotel in Havana. Costello is International List #310. It is stated that he is the owner of this hotel and probably also owns the gambling establishment on the sixth floor. A Cuban is named as manager but an American known as Frederick Keeler is named as the representative of Frank Costello in this business.
- D. Ask the Treasury representative in Havana to secure from the American Express Company in Havana a record of the individuals who were concerned with cashing American Express money orders expended by Luciano during his stay in Cuba. Similar report on the National City Bank of New York traveller's checks might reveal important information concerning associates of Luciano.
- E. Request the Treasury representative in Havana to attempt to identify the man named Bob Weismueller who was associated with Luciano in the plans to construct a \$6,000,000.00 hotel at Barara Beach. We would like to secure from Weismueller any information available as to the source of the funds intended to be used in this project. This man is apparently an American who first stayed at the National Hotel and then moved to a private house at 5th Avenue and 72nd Street in Miramar. He is believed to have been in the company of Doris Coppola who is the wife of Mike (Trigger) Coppola, International List #52. Doris Coppola has been evading questioning by the New York County District Attorney as the result of the arrest of her husband in connection with the famous Scotteriggie murder case. This will cause Weismueller to be an object of considerable interest to the New York County District Attorney and it may be that he will assist the Treasury representative discreetly in order to merit our friendship when he returns to the United States and is questioned about his Havana activities.

- F. Ask the Treasury representative in Havana to determine the identity of the American racketeers who were concerned with the purchase and operation of the airline named Aero Via Q which is alleged to have secured in February 1947 authority to land its airplanes at Key West, Florida. General Genevive Perez Hanson made landing areas available in Cuba which were protected from government supervision and the airplanes were to be used for smuggling purposes. Indalecio Fortierari, Suarez Rivas, Tote Aris and Manuel Quevedo were concerned with this project with Luciano.
- G. Ask the Customs Agency Service to furnish full facts in connection with the exportation of a Dodge automobile, Motor #D-24-94225 bearing a license tag with numbers 10-03608. This car reached Havana on the SS. Florida on February 20, 1947. It was supposed to have been given to Luciano by Conrad Immerman, a notorious gambler. On the basis of the report submitted by Customs we will attempt to trace the history of this car and thus identify associates of Luciano in the United States.
- H. Ask the Customs Agency Service to furnish a report on the exportation to Cuba on the SS. Florida on January 23, 1947 of a 1941 Dodge automobile, motor number D-19-15477, bearing New York license plate G-2560. This car was apparently presented to Luciano by Mrs. Beatrice Rice and her son. This lady apparently resides in the residence of Chester Sims who is a prominent American gambler and who also associated with Luciano in Havana. On the basis of the details to be furnished by Customs we will attempt to trace the association of these people with Luciano. I am informed that Mrs. Rice may also be residing at the Reparte Country Club, Mariabo Park.
- I. Ask the Treasury representative in Havana to identify fully Miss Valdivieso who travels between Peru and Havana and is alleged to regularly smuggle amounts of cocaine into Cuba. While in Havana she stayed at the Sevilla Hotel and it is known that she delivered cocaine to Suarez Rivas and to others in Havana. During March 1947 attempt was made by Suarez Rivas to sell a large quantity of this smuggled cocaine to Jose Martinez Rodriguez, alias Rubico, the partner of Jordano, who lives at 405 Presidente Zayas St., and to another narcotic trafficker known as El Moreno.

I. (Continued)

These three dealers did not buy this particular lot of cocaine and Miss Valdivieso later offered the cocaine to Piro Socarres, Senator Pace and Carlos. This information with respect to the movement of cocaine from Peru to Havana is important in connection with the traffic in smuggled cocaine in New York City and this particular investigation may furnish us with the identity of a source of supply for the cocaine seized in this district. Full data should be furnished on all of these narcotic traffickers with the possibility in mind of listing them in our International List.

2. A. Request the State Department to make representations to the governments of Venezuela, Colombia and Brazil to effect the cancellation of the visas given to Salvatore Luciano, alias Lucky Luciano prior to his departure from Italy.
- B. Request the State Department to secure through the authorities in Italy cancellation of the Italian passport used by Luciano and attempt to prevent his being furnished a similar passport in the future.
- C. Request the State Department to make an examination of the records in connection with the United States visas given to Eduardo Suarez Rivas who is alleged to possess a Cuban diplomatic passport. It was reported to us that Mr. Rivas, who is a Senator in Cuba, has in the past made formal attempts to prevent United States from entering Cuba and that the State Department has in the past questioned the issuance of a United States visa to Rivas. Inasmuch as Rivas is apparently an intimate associate of Luciano and other prominent American racketeers and is alleged to be involved in violation of both Cuban and American laws, it is thought that even greater opposition should be offered to any future plans he may have to travel to this country. He is alleged to have used his diplomatic passport to travel to New York City for the specific purpose of attending a bon voyage party for Luciano on a freighter in New York harbor when Luciano was deported to Italy on February 10, 1946. It is quite likely that Rivas is engaged in the smuggling of narcotic drugs into the United States and it is certain that he comes to this country for the express purpose of conferring with such notorious racketeers as Frank Costello, International List #310, Meyer Lansky, International List #169, and others of similar notoriety.

2. D. Request the State Department to make appropriate inquiries through the representatives in Brazil in order to obtain information concerning the purchase of certain National City Bank traveller's checks by Luciano. This criminal had in his possession such checks numbered 7-2-723458 of \$10.00 denomination and 0-2-974-680 of \$50.00 denomination. Luciano stated that he had bought these traveller's checks in Brazil. This would most likely have been done at the port of entry at which the airplane from Italy landed. It is assumed that the State Department representatives in Brazil can trace this particular matter.

Respectfully,

Garland H. Williams
District Supervisor

WHSB.

CC: Atlanta with encl.
Chicago with encl.